PTO/SB/17 (05-03)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Inder the Peperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Compl te if Known **FEE TRANSMITTAL** 10/045,354 Application Number Filing Date November 7, 2001 for FY 2003 Angela Hui et al. First Named Inventor Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision. Examiner Name Khiem D. Nguyen Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 2823 Art Unit TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 84.00 AMDP714US Attorney Dacket No. METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) FEE CALCULATION (continued) Money Order Check Credit card 3. ADDITIONAL FEES Other None Large Entity | Small Entity ✓ Deposit Account: Fee Description Deposit Account Code Code (\$) (\$) Fee Paid 50-1733 1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath Number Decosit Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or 1052 50 2052 25 **ESCHWEILER & ASSOCIATES, LLC** Account cover sheet Name 1053 130 1053 130 Non-English specification The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) 1812 2,520 1812 2.520 For filing a request for ex parts reexamination Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments 1804 920 1804 920° Requesting publication of SIR prior to Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application Examiner action Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee 1805 1,840 1805 1,840° Requesting publication of SIR after to the above-identified deposit account. Examiner action 1251 110 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month **FEE CALCULATION** 205 Extension for reply within second month 1252 410 2252 1. BASIC FILING FEE 1253 arge Entity Small Entity 930 2253 465 Extension for reply within third month Fee Fee Fee Fee Code (\$) Fee Description Fee Paid 1254 1.450 2254 725 Extension for reply within fourth month 985 Extension for reply within fifth month 1255 1.970 2255 1001 750 2001 375 Utility filing fee 1002 330 2002 1401 320 2401 165 Design filing tee 160 Notice of Appeal 1003 520 2003 260 Plant filing fee 1402 320 2402 160 Filling a brief in support of an appeal 2004 375 1403 280 2403 140 Request for oral hearing 1004 750 Reissue filing fee 1451 1,510 Patition to institute a public use proceeding 1005 160 2005 Provisional filing fee 1451 1,510 1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 1453 1,300 2453 650 Petition to revive - unintentional 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE 1501 1.300 2501 650 Utility issue fee (or reissue) Extra Claims Fee Pald balow 1502 470 2502 235 Design Issue fee **Total Claims** 18.00 -26** = 630 1503 2503 315 Plant issue fee Independent 84.00 = 84.00 ¥ 1460 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner Multiple Dependent 1807 50 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) Large Entity Small Entity 1806 180 1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt Fee Fee Code (\$) Fee Description 40 Recording each patent assignment per Code (\$) 8021 40 8021 property (times number of properties) 1202 Claims in excess of 20 18 2202 9 375 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) 1809 750 2809 Independent claims in excess of 3 1201 84 42 1203 280 2203 140 Multiple dependent claim, if not peid 376 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) 1810 750 2810 ** Reissue independent claims 2204 1204 84 42 over original patent 2801 375 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1801 750 1205 18 2205 ** Raissue claims in excess of 20 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination and over original patent of a design application Other fee (specify) 84.00 SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) "Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) or number previously paid, if greater; For Relssues, see above (Complete (# applicable) SUBMITTED BY

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4/03

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of:

Applicant:

Angela Hui, et al.

Application No.:

10/045,354

For:

AN INNOVATIVE METHOD OF HARD MASK REMOVAL

Filing Date:

November 7, 2001

Examiner:

Khiem D Nguyen

Art Unit:

2823

SUPPLEMENTAL REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 2, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 19, 21 and 24, cancel claims 25-26, and add new claim 27 as follows below:

 (Currently amended) A method of stripping a hard mask from a substrate comprising an insulating material exposed within gaps patterned through the hard mask, comprising:

coating the substrate with a sacrificial material that fills the gaps; and plasma etching to strip the sacrificial material and the hard mask substantially completely in a single plasma etch process.

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